## Meeting Notes

**Improving Student Learning at Scale Team Meeting**

May 22nd, 1pm-4pm

ESD 113, Olympia

**Attendees (listed alphabetically by first name):**

Alan Burke (OSPI) via teleconference, Anne Messerly (WSAC), Ben Rarick (SBE), Bill Moore (SBCTC), Rep. Chris Reykdal (Legislature), Craig Kanaya (Strategies 360), Ellen Matheny (WSAC) , Gene Sharratt (WSAC), Jan Yoshiwara (SBCTC), Jana Carlisle (Partnership for Learning), Jane Sherman (COP), Jennifer Wallace (Professional Educator Standard’s Board), Justin Montermini (WTECB), Karen Waters (Strategies 360), Marcie Maxwell (Governor’s Office), Mike Hubert (OSPI), Noreen Light (WSAC), Rai Nauman Mumtaz (WSAC), Randy Spaulding (WSAC), Vi Boyer (ICW)

*Legend-*

OSPI- Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction

SBE- State Board for Education

WSAC- Washington Student Achievement Council

WTECB- Workforce Training and Education Coordinating Board

COP- Council of Presidents

ICW- Independent Colleges of Washington

**Overview**

* Welcome and Introductions
* Recommendations for Use of Smarter Balanced Assessment and Transition Courses
* Continue Large Group Discussion on Communications and Strategic Messaging of Smarter Balanced Assessment
* Network for Transforming Educator Preparation
* 24 Hour Graduation Requirements and Rulemaking Process
* Wrap-up

**Welcome and Introductions**

WSAC thanked everyone for being there and reviewed the agenda. Team members introduced themselves and then WSAC discussed the main goal for the day, which was to develop a thorough Smarter Balanced communications plan.

The state team discussed “Higher Ed for Higher Standards,” which is trying to build the higher education voice for support of Common Core and aligned assessments. Gene stated that WSAC would like to sign on to the Statement of Principles.

The outcome of this is to support Common Core State Standards (CSS) and avoid pushback of CCSS. There does not appear to be a significant problem with lack of support for Common Core in Washington, but we want to be prepared for everything.

Some of the team members suggested that if there is a problem, we should focus directly on Washington instead of directing it at all the states in the Consortium.

**Recommendations for Use of the Smarter Balanced Assessment and Transition Courses**

Bill Moore, Director of Core to College Alignment Project, discussed the draft agreement on the use of Smarter Balanced 11th grade assessment for placement into college coursework. The goal of the Community and Technical Colleges (CTCs) is to endorse the agreement by Summer 2014. The CTCs will sign on collectively.

The baccalaureate institutions refer to it as a ‘proposal’ instead of an ‘agreement’. They hope to also have signed on by Summer, but there are still many details that need to be worked out. One concern they have is more information is needed on the transition courses. Private colleges have similar concerns as baccalaureates. These institutions may sign on individually to the proposal.

*Group Discussion:*

* Transition courses are developed in collaboration with K12 and college partnerships--- local colleges must sign off on transition courses
* Using the Smarter Balanced for placement and course taking will create a more aligned system--- right now the state says this is what you have to do to be college and career ready, but colleges still require a placement test. This agreement will help solve this collision
* Baccalaureates need more time to see that the transition course works, so students don’t fail their first year of college; students should be put in the course they’re ready for
* Unlike other K-12 assessments that don’t have an end, there are reasons for students to take the Smarter Balanced assessment more seriously. This assessment leads to something—placement into high school and perhaps college level coursework.

**Strategic Messaging of Smarter Balanced Assessment**

Karen Waters and Craig Kanaya joined the meeting from Strategies 360, to help us develop our communications plan. At our last meeting, the ISLS group discussed this plan in more detail. Here is a summary:

WSAC will coordinate with ReadyWA to create a handout on to provide more information on use of the Smarter Balanced Assessment to the public, targeted at high school counselors and postsecondary faculty. If all stakeholders are more informed about how the Smarter Balanced Assessment relates to high school and college coursework, information will be communicated more effectively between all parties and students and parents can make better decisions on what coursework to take in high school.

*Group Discussion:*

What is the main message?

* Scoring a 3 or 4 in Math or English means you don’t have to take remedial coursework in college
* Possible placement into dual credit courses in high school

Branding

* Co-brand with ReadyWA, it’s important for parents and students to know this is where Common Core related information is coming from; this will help avoid confusion
* Have “funded by…” language
* A list of ISLS partners?

Features

* Add hyperlinks to additional resources
* We could also say ‘for participating colleges’ and provide a link- schools could be added to the website as they sign on
* FAQ section

Content

* Is this communicating policy that already exists or setting policy? Consensus from the group seemed to be communicating existing policy
* Okay to talk about test scores, what 1/2 , 3/4 mean, but not transition course- schools have still not come to a consensus on this
* Marketing campaign needed around saving money--- tell families if students take rigorous courses in high school, they’ll save money in college
* Important to not make it seem defeatist for student who score a 1 or 2, want to create positive messages for these students
* Graduation requirements/High School and Beyond Plan
* New baseline, more challenging
* Promote successful transitions, preparation, planning, purpose

Tone

* Persuasive
* Compelling

We want to communicate this for the June and September counselor meetings. We are getting different groups of counselors at each so it is critical to provide them with some information.

**Network for Transforming Educator Preparation**

Jennifer Wallace, Executive director of Professional Educator Standards Board (PESB) discussed a recent grant they received from Council of Chief State School Officers (CCSSO), called Network for Transforming Educator Preparation (NTEP). Washington was 1 of 7 states selected to participate in this 2-year pilot program. PESB will use CCSSO’s ten recommendations in their report *Our Responsibility, Our Promise- Transforming Educator Preparation and Entry* *into the Profession* as a baseline for its work. PSEB will focus on 3 areas:

1. Licensure
2. Program Approval
3. Data Collection, Analysis and Reporting

For more information, please [click here](http://www.ccsso.org/Resources/Programs/Network_for_Transforming_Educator_Preparation_(NTEP).html).

**24 Credit Graduation Requirements**

Ben Rarick, Executive Director of the State Board of Education (SBE), discussed the recent 24 credit graduation credit requirements. SB 6552 authorized the SBE to implement a 24 credit graduation requirement for the class of 2019 (For more information, please [click here](http://www.sbe.wa.gov/documents/GradRequirements/SummaryOfSB6552.pdf)).

Elements of the proposed graduation requirement rules (from The Capitol Connection):

* Some districts may choose to delay implementation of the 24-credit diploma to graduating classes of 2020 or 2021
* Local determination to waive two credits of the 24 required credits
* Defining a “lab science” for the purpose of meeting the two laboratory science requirements
* Third credit of math and science
* Access to CTE course equivalencies for the third math and science credit
* Culminating project eliminated as a requirement in 2015
* High School and Beyond plan includes four-year course-taking plan for high school

*Group Discussion:*

* New rules will require 2 credit sequence of math, and 3rd is student choice
* High School and Beyond Plan becomes a personalized mechanism for students to determine specific personal plan; it will inform course choices
* Next few months will be critical to adopt rules, maintain rigor of 24 hour requirements, and improve quality of High School and Beyond Plan

**Wrap-up**

Our next cross-state meeting will be September 22-23 (Monday-Tuesday). The location is still TBD, however it will be somewhere in the middle of the country. Topics will include how to work with legislators, breakout sessions on teacher evaluation and aligning K-12 and postsecondary transition courses (WA would obviously go to the later), communications work, human capital, and state sharing of project updates and guided team time

**Our next team meeting will be July 23, 9am-12pm at OSPI in the Brouillet Room.**

*For any questions and/or comments, please contact:*

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